

# TWO STEPS TO MAKE CLASSROOM RECYCLING EASIER

## 1) MARRY THE BINS

Place one recycling bin and one trash bin in each classroom, right next to each other and located near the classroom door.

- Limiting the number of bins sends the message that we don't want to produce too much waste of any kind—either trash or recycling. Reducing is our primary goal!
- Bin pairing is essential during the split second decision that is made after one asks, “Should I recycle this?” When it is convenient to recycle, people recycle more. If a recycling bin is more than a few feet away from the nearest trash bin, it is likely to be contaminated with trash.
- Placement by the door is helpful to custodians for collection.



## 2) POST EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE

Post a sign for all trash and recycling bins. Signs can be [downloaded](https://newtonma.gov/RecyclingEd) and printed from [newtonma.gov/RecyclingEd](https://newtonma.gov/RecyclingEd)

- Labeling bins minimizes confusion and reduces recycling contamination.
- Include signage for every trash and recycling bin throughout your school to achieve the best recycling participation possible.
- Recycling signage can be downloaded in green or blue. Match the sign color to your classroom's bins.
- Signs should be posted with visibility and convenience for the user at mind. Ideal placement is on the wall above the bin.



**Need more bins?** If you have a registered Green Team, contact MassDEP. If not, email [Newton DPW](mailto:recycling@newtonma.gov) at [recycling@newtonma.gov](mailto:recycling@newtonma.gov).

**Need help with printing?** Request pricing from the [Graphics Communication Center](#) at NNHS or contact [Newton DPW](#) for printing assistance.